

TABLE 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2009

Characteristic	All physical sciences fields	Chemistry	Computer and information sciences	Earth, atmospheric and ocean sciences	Mathematics	Physics and astronomy
All doctorate recipients (number)	8,331	2,398	1,611	877	1,554	1,891
	Number					
Postgraduation status ^a						
Definite postgraduation study	2,976	961	263	381	473	898
Definite employment	2,388	526	768	224	533	337
Seeking employment or study	1,923	572	357	188	376	430
Other ^b	200	67	40	12	34	47
	Percent					
Definite postgraduation study ^{c,d}						
Postdoc fellowship	44.0	41.5	40.3	45.1	56.7	40.4
Postdoc research associateship	54.7	57.3	57.4	53.3	42.5	58.1
Other ^e	1.3	1.1	2.3	1.6	0.8	1.4
Definite employment ^f						
Academe	35.9	25.7	29.9	36.2	59.8	27.6
Government	7.2	8.2	4.0	13.8	5.8	10.7
Industry/business ^g	51.4	60.8	62.5	46.0	27.6	52.8
Nonprofit	2.4	2.5	D	D	3.2	3.6
Other/unknown ^h	3.0	2.9	D	D	3.6	5.3
Primary activity ⁱ						
R&D	61.4	63.4	74.5	53.1	44.1	61.2
Teaching	25.8	21.3	15.3	24.5	47.4	23.1
Management or administration	4.4	5.0	4.6	7.8	2.3	3.9
Professional services	6.9	8.2	4.6	12.5	5.4	9.1
Other	1.5	2.1	1.0	2.1	0.8	2.6
Secondary activity ^j						
R&D	23.8	16.5	15.8	27.6	42.3	21.8
Teaching	10.3	4.6	13.9	10.9	13.2	6.2
Management or administration	13.6	24.3	11.7	9.4	7.2	13.7
Professional services	6.4	6.9	5.3	8.9	8.2	3.6
Other	1.6	1.7	1.9	1.6	1.2	1.3
No secondary activity	44.4	46.0	51.4	41.7	27.8	53.4
Activity unknown	9.5	9.1	9.1	14.3	9.0	8.9
Postgraduation location ^k						
United States ^k	87.7	91.9	90.2	88.3	85.8	82.0
New England	9.2	11.6	8.0	6.9	8.0	9.2
Middle Atlantic	13.8	13.7	14.2	8.9	18.4	12.2
East North Central	10.9	13.9	7.1	6.3	14.1	10.0
West North Central	3.3	4.0	2.9	3.1	4.0	2.2
South Atlantic	13.8	14.5	12.1	15.5	15.4	12.3
East South Central	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.3
West South Central	6.6	5.9	5.1	14.9	6.6	4.8
Mountain	5.3	4.8	3.6	7.8	4.0	7.2
Pacific and insular	21.6	19.9	34.1	21.7	12.0	20.8
Not in United States	12.2	8.1	9.8	11.7	14.1	17.8
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Male doctorate recipients (number)	5,868	1,498	1,259	539	1,068	1,504
	Number					
Postgraduation status ^a						
Definite postgraduation study	2,160	652	218	234	345	711
Definite employment	1,668	320	595	140	338	275
Seeking employment or study	1,313	321	275	111	261	345
Other ^b	139	43	30	7	26	33

TABLE 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2009

Characteristic	All physical sciences fields	Chemistry	Computer and information sciences	Earth, atmospheric and ocean sciences	Mathematics	Physics and astronomy
	Percent					
Definite postgraduation study ^{c,d}						
Postdoc fellowship	44.1	42.0	39.4	44.9	55.9	41.4
Postdoc research associateship	54.7	56.9	58.3	53.8	42.9	57.5
Other ^e	1.3	1.1	2.3	1.3	1.2	1.1
Definite employment ^f						
Academe	32.0	20.3	27.4	30.7	59.2	22.5
Government	6.8	7.2	D	D	4.7	10.5
Industry/business ^g	55.9	66.9	64.7	53.6	30.2	57.1
Nonprofit	2.5	2.2	1.8	D	3.3	D
Other/unknown ^h	2.9	3.4	D	D	2.7	D
Primary activity ^j						
R&D	65.4	69.0	77.4	59.0	45.1	63.5
Teaching	21.8	16.4	13.4	17.1	45.4	19.7
Management or administration	3.9	4.5	4.3	7.7	D	D
Professional services	7.5	8.0	4.5	14.5	D	D
Other	1.4	2.1	0.6	1.7	D	D
Secondary activity ^j						
R&D	21.7	14.6	13.7	27.4	41.4	20.1
Teaching	10.4	4.5	12.8	D	14.1	D
Management or administration	14.4	27.5	12.8	11.1	6.6	14.1
Professional services	6.0	6.6	5.4	D	8.9	D
Other	1.5	1.0	2.0	0.9	1.3	1.6
No secondary activity	46.0	45.6	53.2	40.2	27.6	55.8
Activity unknown	10.3	10.3	9.4	16.4	10.1	9.5
Postgraduation location ^l						
United States ^k	87.0	90.9	89.9	89.8	83.7	81.8
New England	8.6	11.5	7.3	6.4	6.6	9.2
Middle Atlantic	13.8	12.4	14.1	9.6	19.6	12.3
East North Central	11.0	14.0	7.0	6.7	14.5	10.4
West North Central	3.0	4.2	D	D	3.8	1.8
South Atlantic	13.2	13.9	11.4	15.5	14.1	12.7
East South Central	2.7	3.0	D	D	3.1	2.2
West South Central	6.6	5.7	4.8	16.8	7.0	4.8
Mountain	5.2	4.9	3.7	7.0	3.1	7.5
Pacific and insular	22.0	20.1	36.2	21.7	11.3	20.0
Not in United States	12.9	9.1	10.1	10.2	16.1	18.0
Location unknown	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2
Female doctorate recipients (number)	2,450	894	351	338	483	384
	Number					
Postgraduation status ^a						
Definite postgraduation study	816	309	45	147	128	187
Definite employment	720	206	173	84	195	62
Seeking employment or study	609	251	82	77	114	85
Other ^b	61	24	10	5	8	14
	Percent					
Definite postgraduation study ^{c,d}						
Postdoc fellowship	43.6	40.5	44.4	45.6	58.6	36.9
Postdoc research associateship	54.8	58.3	53.3	52.4	41.4	60.4
Other ^e	1.6	1.3	2.2	2.0	0.0	2.7

TABLE 55. Statistical profile of postgraduation plans of doctorate recipients in physical sciences fields, by sex and field of study: 2009

Characteristic	All physical sciences fields	Chemistry	Computer and information sciences	Earth, atmospheric and ocean sciences	Mathematics	Physics and astronomy
Definite employment ^f						
Academe	45.1	34.0	38.7	45.2	61.0	50.0
Government	8.2	9.7	D	D	7.7	11.3
Industry/business ^g	41.0	51.5	54.9	33.3	23.1	33.9
Nonprofit	2.4	2.9	D	D	3.1	D
Other/unknown ^h	3.3	1.9	2.9	D	5.1	D
Primary activity ^j						
R&D	52.4	55.0	64.8	44.0	42.5	51.7
Teaching	34.8	28.8	22.0	36.0	50.8	37.9
Management or administration	5.4	5.8	5.7	8.0	D	D
Professional services	5.6	8.4	5.0	9.3	D	D
Other	1.8	2.1	2.5	2.7	D	D
Secondary activity ^j						
R&D	28.6	19.4	22.6	28.0	43.6	29.3
Teaching	10.2	4.7	17.6	D	11.6	D
Management or administration	11.6	19.4	8.2	6.7	8.3	12.1
Professional services	7.2	7.3	5.0	D	7.2	D
Other	1.7	2.6	1.3	2.7	1.1	0.0
No secondary activity	40.7	46.6	45.3	44.0	28.2	43.1
Activity unknown	7.8	7.3	8.1	10.7	7.2	6.5
Postgraduation location ^k						
United States ^k	89.6	93.6	91.3	85.7	90.1	82.7
New England	10.4	11.8	10.6	7.8	10.8	9.2
Middle Atlantic	13.8	15.9	14.2	7.8	15.8	12.0
East North Central	10.7	13.8	7.3	5.6	13.3	8.4
West North Central	4.0	3.5	D	D	4.3	3.6
South Atlantic	15.2	15.5	14.7	15.6	18.3	10.8
East South Central	2.4	2.3	D	D	2.5	2.8
West South Central	6.7	6.2	6.4	11.7	5.6	4.8
Mountain	5.5	4.5	3.2	9.1	5.9	6.0
Pacific and insular	20.4	19.6	26.6	21.6	13.6	24.1
Not in United States	10.4	6.4	8.7	14.3	9.9	17.3
Location unknown	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

D = suppressed to avoid disclosure of confidential information.

^a Includes only respondents who responded to post graduation status.^b Includes respondents who indicated that they did not plan to work or study, respondents who indicated some other type of postgraduation plans, and respondents who indicated definite plans for other full-time degree program.^c Does not include respondents who indicated plans for other full-time degree program.^d Percentages are based on the number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for study and type of postdoctoral study.^e "Other" includes respondents who indicated definite postgraduation study plans for traineeship, internship/clinical residency, or other study.^f Percentages are based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment.^g Includes doctorate recipients who indicated self-employment.^h "Other" is mainly composed of elementary and secondary schools.ⁱ Percentages are based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans for employment and primary work activity.^j Percentages are based on number of doctorate recipients reporting definite postgraduation plans and type of plans.^k Includes cases with a U.S. unknown region of employment after doctorate; see appendix A for states/territories included in regions.

NOTE: Due to rounding, the sum of percentages may not equal to 100.

SOURCE: NSF/NIH/USED/USDA/NEH/NASA, 2009 Survey of Earned Doctorates.